

lent as a monthly—it is better as a weekly. Dr. F. P. Foster continues in editorial control.

The *Medical News*, published by Henry C. Lea's Son & Co., of Philadelphia, retains its former size and shape, unwarned, probably, of the intentions of its two powerful New York rivals.

*Gaillard's Medical Journal* (monthly), formerly *The Richmond and Louisville Medical Journal*, has undergone still another transformation, and now comes to us in the form of an enterprising weekly, entitled *The American Medical Weekly*. We notice that one of our ablest contributors and co-workers, Dr. Jas. G. Kiernan, of Chicago, takes charge of a prominent feature of the *Journal*, viz., "Original Abstracts." The change bespeaks success.

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#### CEREBRAL HYPERÆMIA.

IN a recent lecture on "Brain Health," at Edinburgh, Dr. J. Batty Tuke, referring to loss of sleep, said that it was brought about thus: When the brain was being actively exercised, there was an increase of blood in its vessels—this was spoken of as a "functional hyperæmia." If the exercise of the brain powers was too long continued, there was a tendency for the blood to remain in too great quantity, from the cells becoming exhausted and not being able to control the vessels. In sleep the amount of blood was diminished, and sleep could not be procured if this functional hyperæmia persisted. In the absence of sleep, the cells could not recover themselves, and their activity became impaired. Headache, loss of appetite, and general listlessness followed.

Similar views to these expressed by Dr. J. Batty Tuke have been held and widely promulgated in this country during the last ten years. They have been subjected, however, to much and sometimes violent adverse criticism.

In a recent meeting of the Academy of Medicine a prominent member cynically referred to that "great delusion, cerebral hyperæmia."

But Voisin in his recent work and Luys in a work just published, have based their entire doctrine of the pathology of insanity

upon the variations of the blood supply in the brain. Luys, speaking in general terms, divides the insane into two classes—all the exalted are hyperæemics, all the depressed are anæemics. That these views are entertained by these and other equally eminent physicians abroad shows, so far as the testimony goes, that something more than the arguments thus far brought forward must be advanced by those who would negative the existence of the condition termed cerebral hyperæmia.

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